existing 100W TV transmitters at Gwalior, Jabalpur and Jagdalpur by high power (10/1 KW) TV transmitters and of 1 KW TV transmitter at Raipur by a 10KW transmitter and establishment of 100 W TV transmitters, one each at Ambikapur, Bailadila, Balaghat, Betul, Chhattarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Guna, Jhabua, Khargaon, Mandla, Mandsaur, Narasinhapur, Neemuch, Panna, Raigarh, Rajgarh, Satna, Seoni, Shahdol, Sidhi, Shivpuri and Tikamgarh. While a 100 W TV transmitter was commissioned into service at Damoh in 1986-87 two such transmitters, one each at Shahdol and Guna, have so far been commissioned during 1987-88. As per present indications, seven more 100 W TV transmitters are expected to be installed and commissioned into service during the remainder part of the current financial year, i.e., 1987-88. Completion of the remaining projects is dependent on the annual allocation of plan resources and the supply of the required equipment.

(c) The capital expenditure on the Seventh Plan schemes of Doordarshan in respect of Madhya Pradesh is estimated at Rs. 36.65 crores.

Installation of TV Centres

3004. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government gives preference to high altitude places while selecting the sites for the installation of Television Centres, besides other factors so that the effective range of coverage of TV programmes increases and larger number of people spread over larger areas get benefited;

(b) whether Government have received requests in regard to the installation of TV towers on the following high altitude points *viz.* Dhoopgarh-Pachamari in Hoshangabad district, Amarkantak in Shahdol district and Dewastekri in Dewas district of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in negative, whether Government would examine the feasibility so that large number of backward and tribal people of Madhya Pradesh also get the benefit of Television?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. It is one of the factors taken into account while selecting a site for location of the transmitter.

(b) Requests have been received from time to time for setting up of TV transmitters at Amarkantak in Shahdol district and in Dewas and Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) The existing high power (10 KW) TV transmitters at Bhopal and Indore provide TV service to almost whole of Dewas district and large parts of Hoshangabad district. A 100 W TV transmitter has also been recently commissioned into service at Shahdol. Besides, a high power (10 KW) TV transmitter to be set up at Jabalpur (in replacement of the existing 100 W TV transmitter there) is also expected to provide service to parts of Shahdol district when commissioned into service towards the end of the Seventh plan period. On completion of the various Seventh Plan schemes of Doordarshan, all the tribal districts of Madhya Pradesh are expected to be covered by TV service, either wholly or partially. Any further strengthening of TV service in the above districts would depend upon availability of resources in the future plans of TV expansion.